

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-05 SAM-01 ARA-06

EUR-12 NEA-10 /098 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5499

INFL USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0849

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IFOR UNGA KS KN

SUBJECT: KOREA IN 30TH UNGA: MAURITIUS

REF: (A) STATE 254917; (B) USUN 5356

1. EARLIEST TIME I COULD MEET PRIVATELY WITH PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM WAS THIS MORNING. (HE WAS ON THE MOVE ALL DAY AND MOST OF THE NIGHT YESTERDAY.) I PUT USUN AND DEPARTMENT PITCH TO HIM POLITELY BUT VERY FIRMLY, INCLUDING PARA 2 REF A ALMOST VERBATIM.

2. WHILE REITERATING HOW HIGHLY HE VALUED RELATIONS WITH US, HE KEPT GROANING HOW COULD HE "FACE" OAU (OF WHICH HE IS PRESIDENT-APPARENT NEXT YEAR) AND PRESERVE GOM RELATIONS WITH BOTH KOREAS IF HE VOTED AGAINST ALGERIAN RESOLUTION. BEST I COULD GET FROM RAMGOOLAM WAS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) MAURITIUS WOULD TAKE POSITION THAT FRENCH AMENDMENT SHOULD BE VOTED ON FIRST.

(B) MAURITIUS WOULD VOTE FOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION.

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(C) MAURITIUS WOULD HAVE TO ABSTAIN ON UNFRIENDLY RESOLUTION.

(C) MAURITIUS PERMREP RAMPHUL WOULD MAKE SPEECH PRIOR TO VOTES EMPHASIZING THAT NOTHING SHOULD BE DONE WHICH WOULD INTERFERE WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR BOTH KOREAS TO SETTLE THEIR PROBLEMS PEACEFULLY.

(E) RAMGOOLAM WOULD SEND FOREGOING INSTRUCTIONS TO RAMPHUL IMMEDIATELY.

3. I SAID I COULD NOT SEE HOW ANY VOTE FOR PRIORITY ON FRENCH AMENDMENT COULD SUPERSEDE OR CHANGE EXISTING PROCEDURAL PRIORITY RESOLUTION, AND IN ANY EVENT PRIORITY FOR FRENCH AMENDMENT SHOULD IMPLY NEGATIVE VOTE ON PRIORITY FOR UNFRIENDLY RESOLUTION. RAMGOOLAM WOULD NOT GIVE ME STRAIGHT ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION.

4. RAMGOOLAM HAD MESSAGE FROM RAMPHUL THIS MORNING CLOSELY PARALLELING USUN'S REPORT REF B. RAMGOOLAM COMMENTED THAT HE HAD MORE CONFIDENCE IN RAMPHUL'S VOTE COUNTING THAN IN USUN'S AND THEREFORE RAMGOOLAM WAS NOT CONVINCED WE HAVE ENOUGH VOTES TO PASS FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. RAMGOOLAM RECALLED DIFFERING US AND MAURITIAN ESTIMATES ON CHINA ADMISSION VOTE WHERE HE CLAIMED RAMPHUL'S COUNT WAS MORE ACCURATE THAN OURS. I REITERATED OUR CONFIDENCE IN OUR VOTE COUNT ON KOREA THIS TIME AND STRESSED THAT RAMGOOLAM'S POSITION AND OURS APPEARED SUBSTANTIVELY PARALLEL AND COMPATIBLE. THEREFORE IN LIGHT OF RAMGOOLAM'S SUBSTANTIVE POSITION ON KOREA (WHICH HE HAD ALREADY COMMUNICATED TO NORTH KOREA) IT SEEMED TO ME MAURITIUS WOULD BE JUSTIFIED VOTING AGAINST ALGERIAN RESOLUTION. HE DID NOT DEMUR BUT AGAIN COMPLAINED ABOUT FEAR OF CROSSING NON-ALIGNED AND OAU, REMARKING THAT BOUMEDIENE WAS MAIN TROUBLEMAKER ON THIS ISSUE, BUT PERHAPS GA PRESIDENT THORN COULD BE HELPFUL ON MANAGING PRIORITY RESOLUTION.

5. RAMGOOLAM SAID HE THOUGHT "SOMETHING HAD HAPPENED" ON THIS ISSUE IN POLITICAL COMMITTEE LAST NIGHT BUT DID NOT KNOW EXACTLY WHAT. NEITHER DO I, BUT I WILL PHONE AF/E - COOTE ABOUT 0900 WASHINGTON TIME TODAY FOR LATEST READING AND ADVICE.
MANHARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL REVERSION, ARMISTICE, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PORTL00849
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750373-0296
From: PORT LOUIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751014/aaaaamdhdh.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 254917
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KOREA IN 30TH UNGA: MAURITIUS
TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, UNGA
To: STATE SEOUL
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006